Hi Representative _____,
Please use your platform and voice to publicly advocate for the expansion of youth rights. I ask you to take an active role in raising public awareness of the oppression of youth (people ages 0 to 18). By speaking out on social media, during legislative meetings, and at public events, you can help bring attention to the urgent need for these reforms and build the public momentum necessary for meaningful change. Please advocate for the following four gateway rights for youth. These rights will grant people ages 0 to 18 the political, legal, and economic agency to pursue their human rights, as well as give them more time during the day to organize for their own human rights. This is why they are called gateway rights.

1. The Right to Vote for All People, Regardless of Age: The right to vote is a cornerstone of democracy, yet over seventy million American minors (and around 2 billion minors worldwide) are unjustly denied this fundamental right based solely on age. I urge you to support the abolition of the voting age, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of age, can participate in elections. Additionally, automatic voter registration at birth, mandatory voting policy identical to the one in Australian Federal Elections, preferential voting identical to the one in Australian Federal elections, and measures to ensure that children can easily access and exercise their right to vote should be implemented to create a truly representative democracy. Abolishing the voting age will create a world where politicians will pass laws that directly benefit youth in order to gain and keep their votes.

2. Abolition of Guardianship and Custody Powers: Parental and guardian authority should not extend to overriding the fundamental freedoms of young people. I call on you to support the abolition of parental powers in guardianship and custody laws while strengthening parents' and guardians' obligations to provide for their children's basic needs, such as food, clothing, and shelter. Youth should be recognized as autonomous individuals with full legal personhood, rather than being subjected to control over their lives by virtue of their age. Abolishing these powers will keep parents from using their parental power to stop youth as individuals from organizing for their human rights.

3. Comprehensive Reform of Compulsory Education:
The current compulsory schooling system disproportionately limits young people's freedoms. I urge you to support reducing compulsory schooling to two hours per day, with this time dedicated exclusively to reading, writing, arithmetic, youth liberationist literature, human rights education, and democratic governance in western democracies both contemporary and in the last fifty years. Optional classes on practical skills should be encouraged and college in high school programs should be made available to all K-12 students. All university programs should be free to minors. This shift would empower young people with the knowledge and agency to participate in shaping their own futures and the future of society. Giving youth the time to organize will help them organize to protest and get the legislature to pass laws that help them.

4. Youth Workers' Rights, Ban on Physical Labor for Youth, and Abolition of the Minimum Working Age: Workplace protections must be extended to all youth workers, ensuring that young people have the same rights as adult workers, including equal pay and strong labor protections. At the same time, no youth should ever be required to perform, nor perform voluntarily, physical labor in any job. Service sector jobs need to be created so that all youth can work if they want to. By abolishing the minimum working age, introducing strong youth worker's rights and collective bargaining institutions, and ensuring quick and easy hiring for youth, we can foster economic independence and workplace

equity for young people. Giving youth financial and economic power and the ability to strike en masse will increase their ability to get the government to pass laws that directly help them.

These four measures represent a crucial step toward a society that truly values the rights and voices of young people. I urge you to use your platform to raise public awareness and actively advocate for these changes. Please let me know where you stand on these proposals, and I appreciate your time and attention to this critical matter.
Best regards,

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